



GENERAL MOTORS NORTH AMERICA
Structure & Safety Integration

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

2004 NOV 12 A 10 24

Rec'd RProcto 11/9/04
To J. Thompson 11/10/04

NHTSA-04-16856-29

November 4, 2004
USG 3874

TR
Mr. Stephen R. Kratzke
Associate Administrator, Rulemaking
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Vehicle Line Name Change for 2006 MY &
Petition for Modification of Exemption from Parts-marking

Dear Mr. Kratzke:

General Motors Corporation (GM) will change the name of its Buick H-Car entry into the marketplace beginning with 2006 MY production, renaming the Buick LeSabre the Buick Lucerne. The vehicle will continue to be built on the existing 'H' car platform of the Buick LeSabre.

Coincident with the name change, General Motors will be upgrading the standard theft deterrent system installed in the Lucerne. Therefore, in accordance with 49 CFR 543, General Motors is petitioning for modification of the exemption currently granted to the Buick 'H' car to comprehend the change in theft deterrent.

Beginning with the 1993 model year, the agency, in accordance with 49 CFR Part 543, granted exemption to the Buick H-Car LeSabre from the parts-marking requirements of 49 CFR Part 541. At the time the agency granted the exemption, the LeSabre was equipped with the PASS-Key® II theft-deterrent system as standard equipment. For the 2000 model year, the exemption was modified to comprehend usage of the PASS-Key III theft deterrent system as standard equipment. For the 2006 model year, the Buick Lucerne will be equipped with the PASS-Key III+ system as standard equipment.

The attached document provides the information enumerated in 49 CFR 543.6, including a description of the system and the basis for GM's conclusion that this system is likely to be at least as effective in deterring motor vehicle theft as compliance with the parts marking requirements of 49 CFR 541.

This petition is comparable to the modifications of exemption granted by the agency for the Chevrolet Impala, as published on March 29, 1999 in

Mail Code 480-111-S56
30200 Mound Road
Warren, MI 48090-9010

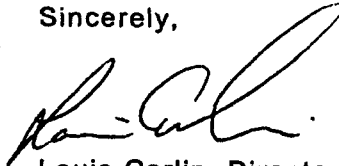
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64FR14963, and the Buick LaCrosse, as published on July 27, 2004 in 69FR44724.

For additional copies of any of the material submitted to the NHTSA for consideration at this time or if further discussion of this matter will be of assistance to the agency, please contact David Proefke of our Warren, Michigan office at (586) 986-9398, or Stephen Gehring of our Washington, DC office at (202) 775-5071.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis Carlin", written in a cursive style.

Louis Carlin, Director
Safety Regulations and
Consumer Information

Attachment

cc: Rosalind Proctor, Division Chief, Consumer Standards Division